

# SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR) PERSONNEL



Learn more about the role of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates (SAPR VAs) and Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and the support and advocacy they provide following a sexual assault.

The goal of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office is to support the immediate needs of a victim or survivor, provide advocacy as well as resource referral. Referrals to Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC), medical support, chaplains, as well as community-based solutions, Employee Assistance Programs, and to other providers creates holistic support for a victim of sexual assault.

**Sexual Assault** is intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority when the victim does not or cannot consent. This includes a broad category of sexual offenses consisting of the following specific UCMJ offenses: rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, forcible sodomy (forced oral or anal sex), or attempts to commit these offenses. (DoDI 6495.02)

## SAPR VICTIM ADVOCATES



### Care and Immediate Response

SAPR Victim Advocates support and empower victims of sexual assault. They may be uniformed or civilian personnel and are responsible for providing foundational support for the SAPR program. They do not provide legal or clinical advice.

- SAPR VAs often accompany victims to appointments such as law enforcement interviews or court proceedings.
- They facilitate referrals and support services, initiate safety planning, and conduct unit-level SAPR training.



### Subject Matter Expertise and Oversight

## SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATORS

Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) are subject matter experts advising commands on sexual assault response and prevention efforts.

- They oversee and supervise SAPR VAs and conduct initial and ongoing training for SAPR VAs.
- SARCs develop protocols for their specific locations, ensure compliance with policy, and liaise with other departments to ensure mission success. In their role, they manage data entry and requests, trend analysis, and often act as inspectors for Inspector General site visits and inspections.

## SARCs AND SAPR VAs

The goal of the SAPR office is to support the immediate needs of a victim or survivor and work towards a long-term response and warm hand-off to additional providers. Referrals to community-based resources, to Employee Assistance Programs, and to other providers creates holistic support for a victim of sexual assault.

Both SARCs and SAPR VAs can take restricted and unrestricted reports.

SARCs and SAPR VA are available through your Military Service or by contacting the **DoD Safe Helpline**, which offers live, one-on-one support and information. Services are confidential, anonymous, secure, and available worldwide 24/7. Call **1-877-995-5247** or visit **SafeHelpline.org**. The DoD Safe Helpline connects users with SARCs, SAPR VAs, Chaplains, legal support, medical and behavioral healthcare services, military police, local civilian sexual assault service providers, and many others.



### Referrals, Advocacy, and Reporting



## ► Where to get help

- Each installation has a **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office**, SAPR Victim Advocates, and a 24/7 support line.
- **The DoD Safe Helpline** offers live, one-on-one support and information. Services are confidential, anonymous, secure, and available worldwide 24/7. Call **1-877-995-5247** or visit **SafeHelpline.org**.

The DoD Safe Helpline connects users with SARCs, SAPR VAs, Chaplains, legal support, medical and behavioral healthcare services, military police, local civilian sexual assault service providers, and many others.

- **The Department of the Navy Civilian Employee Assistance Program (DONCEAP)** provides confidential, free, and compassionate care and resources any time – day or night. Call **1-844-DON-CEAP (1-844-366-2327)**, TTY **1-800-635-2883**, or visit **MagellanAscend.com**.

DoD  
**Safe Helpline**  
.....  
Sexual Assault Support for the DoD Community

[safehelpline.org](https://safehelpline.org) | 877-995-5247

**Magellan**  
HEALTHCARE®

